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File No: 24530-008/MXM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yikihiro HANAOKA Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Serial No.: To be assigned Examiner: To be assigned

National Phase of
PCT/JP2003/012068,
filed September 22, 2003

Filed: Herewith – March 18, 2005

For: **STOCKER APPARATUS**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: